

§ 622.51 Definitions.

Unless noted otherwise, the definitions set forth in § 622.2 of subpart A shall apply to this subpart.

§ 622.52 Purpose and scope.

The rules and procedures specified in this subpart and in subpart A are applicable to proceedings by the FCA to assess and collect civil money penalties:

- (a) For a violation of the terms of a final cease and desist order issued under section 5.25 or 5.26 of the Act, or
- (b) For violation of any provision of the Act or any regulation issued under the Act.

§ 622.53 Notification of alleged violations.

Before determining whether to assess a civil money penalty and determining the amount of such penalty, the FCA shall notify the institution or person to be assessed of the violation(s) alleged to have occurred or to be occurring, and shall solicit the written views of the institution or person regarding the imposition of such penalty.

§ 622.54 Relevant considerations.

In determining the amount of any penalty assessed, the FCA shall consider the financial resources and good faith of the institution or person charged, the gravity of the violation, any previous violations, and such other matters as justice may require.

§ 622.55 Notice of assessment of civil money penalty.

(a) *Notice of assessment.* After considering any written materials submitted in accordance with § 622.53 and the factors stated in § 622.54, the FCA shall commence a civil money penalty proceeding with the issuance of a notice of assessment of a civil money penalty. The notice of assessment shall state:

- (1) The legal authority for the assessment;
- (2) The amount of the civil money penalty being assessed;
- (3) The date by which the civil money penalty shall be paid;
- (4) The matter of fact or law constituting the grounds for assessment of the civil money penalty;
- (5) The right of the institution or person being assessed to a formal hear-

ing to challenge the assessment in accordance with 12 U.S.C. 2268(c) and (d);

(6) That failure to request a hearing constitutes a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing and the notice of assessment shall constitute a final and unappealable order in accordance with 12 U.S.C. 2268(c); and

(7) The time limit to request such a formal hearing.

(b) *Service.* The notice of assessment may be served upon the institution or person being assessed by personal service or by certified mail with a return receipt to the institution's or the person's last known address. Such service constitutes issuance of the notice.

§ 622.56 Request for formal hearing on assessment.

An institution or person being assessed may request a formal hearing to challenge the assessment of a civil money penalty. The request must be filed in writing, within 10 days of the issuance of the notice of assessment, with the Chairman of the Board, FCA, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, VA 22102-5090.

§ 622.57 Waiver of hearing; consent.

(a) *Waiver.* Failure to request a hearing pursuant to § 622.56 constitutes a waiver of the opportunity for a hearing and the notice of assessment issued pursuant to § 622.55 shall constitute a final and unappealable order.

(b) *Consent.* Any party afforded a hearing who does not appear at the hearing personally or by a duly authorized representative is deemed to have consented to the issuance of an assessment order.

§ 622.58 Hearing on assessment.

(a) *Time and place.* An institution or person requesting a hearing shall be informed by order of the Board of the time and place set for hearing.

(b) *Answer; procedures.* The hearing order may require the institution or person requesting the hearing to file an answer as prescribed in § 622.5 of subpart A. The procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 554-557) and subpart A of these rules shall apply to the hearing.